

The King and Queen, on Tuesday last, visited the sick and wounded patients at Charing Cross Hospital. They were received by the Chairman, Mr. George Verity, the Matron, Miss M. Heather-Bigg, the Secretary, and others. Their Majesties gave permission for the wards placed at the disposal of the War Office to be named the King George V and Queen Mary Wards.

The Prince of Wales on Monday last visited Béthusy St. Pierre, in the district of Senlis, to thank the inhabitants for their care of the British wounded. His Royal Highness conferred the insignia of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem on the Abbé Bezant, Dr. Lajeunouze, and Sister Benoit, and Mlle Juliette Caron of the local nursing organisation.

JOINT WAR COMMITTEE.

The following nurses have been deputed to service in home hospitals:—

HOME HOSPITALS.

- Kingsclere House, Newbury.*—Miss East.
Whinney House Hospital, Lowfell, Gateshead.—Miss M. H. Burke.
V.A.D. Hospital, Tisbury, Wilts.—Miss S. Clapp.
Pinner Place, Pinner.—Miss E. Haigh.
Lady Hardinge Hospital, Brockenhurst.—Miss E. Johnston, Miss Bridges, Miss Middleton.
University Hospital, Highfield, Southampton.—Miss W. T. Fairbairn, Miss M. M. Mansfield, Miss C. C. Armeshaw.
Red Cross Hospital, Chigwell, Essex.—Miss A. M. Shaw.
Daneshill Military Hospital, Basingstoke.—Mrs. M. Crookshank.
Auxiliary Military Hospital, Elmsfield, Accrington.—Miss M. E. Thirlwall.
Colne Priory, Earl's Colne, Essex.—Miss J. M. de Buy.
Tylney Hall Military Hospital, Winchfield.—Miss E. M. Gilmour.
Little Charlton Manor, East Sutton, Maidstone.—Miss F. Attwood.
Alnwick Red Cross Hospital.—Miss A. Spence.

KING GEORGE HOSPITAL, S.E.

The following ladies have been appointed Principal Sisters, in addition to Miss Reeves, whose appointment we reported last week:—

Miss Isabel Kemp.—Trained at the Northampton General Hospital; she has been Matron of the Southwark Infirmary, and of the Birmingham Homœopathic Hospital.

Miss Stoddart.—Trained at Guy's Hospital; Matron of the Hertford County Hospital.

ABROAD.

Friends' Enteric Hospital, Dunkirk.—The following nurses left London on Friday Feb. 19th:—Mrs. Brown; Misses B. M. Ashley, C. E. Grice, I. Henderson, H. M. Hicks, C. Low, E. D. Mackworth, K. L. Ray, E. Robinson.

Hospital for Officers, Cannes.—Miss C. Croucher (masseuse), Miss M. Molloy.

THE WOBURN ABBEY BASE HOSPITAL.

We had the pleasure quite recently of inspecting the base military hospitals designed and organized by the Duchess of Bedford, contained in her Cottage Hospital at Woburn, and in the Abbey Hospital at Woburn Abbey; and a short report of the very efficient work evidently being done there for the sick and wounded, will, we feel sure, prove of interest to patriotic nurses.

The imaginative newspaper man is constantly reminding us that we were "astounded and shocked" by the declaration of war, although he usually owns up that we regained our mental equilibrium with remarkable celerity. Of shocks and amazement we know nothing; what the majority of women at once realised at that fateful crisis was, that if the jewels of Empire were to still star the Imperial Crown, we had got to become a military nation for some time to come, and from north, south, east, and west, from wherever the Sons of Empire foregathered to serve their Motherland, there opened out stupendous sacrificial duties for the women of our race. From the first hour of the war, women in every corner of the globe realised instinctively that Duty was the first and only law; and faithfully and gloriously they have obeyed the law. We were reminded of this truth on our arrival at Woburn Abbey when after greeting, the Duchess said:—"As soon as war was proclaimed I wondered what help I could render: I offered my yacht as a patrol boat and all the crew volunteered; as I go yearly to Fair Island away between Orkney and Shetland, we know the Northern coasts and waters very well. My offer was refused, I suppose because I am a woman!"

So failing this heroic service which she is so well fitted to render, the Duchess, so well known for her intelligent interest in nursing, turned her attention to the care of the wounded. We say intelligent, because but the exchange of a few expressions of opinion on nursing, convinces one that this lady has the professional instinct; firstly she realises that even with vocation, it demands an extended novitiate, she appreciates nursing, not only as humanitarian work, but as highly skilled scientific service, based as is medicine in all its degrees on sound sanitary science. We learned this much in her greeting: "One cannot touch hospital work without at once grasping the importance of trained nursing," she said, "how all essential it is. I have no volunteer nurses in the Abbey Hospital."

Then we went to see the hospital which, it is not too much to say, is a marvel of ingenious adaptation. Woburn Abbey to all appearance is an abbey no longer—the demesne bestowed for services rendered in France, to an ancestor of the Duke, by Henry the VIII, is still of exquisite sylvan beauty, but the house is Georgian, and of the same period is the fine building of some 300 feet in length, and of great height—in which the

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